

weapons facility just west of Westminster. For the past couple of years he has represented the City on a number of issues associated with the cleanup of this site, protecting surrounding drinking water supplies, ensuring worker safety, and with the site's future use. He was an early and strong supporter of preserving the acres of open space and wildlife habitat that exist on this site. He was instrumental in helping win the support of the neighboring communities for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act so that this site could become an asset not only to the citizens of Westminster, but all of the surrounding communities.

Ron is an example of the important role that our local officials play in maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for our Nation's citizens. His dedication to his community and collaboration with neighboring communities stands as a shining example of the rewards that come from such service—not only to the community leader, but the lives touched by that service.

As Westminster City Manager Brent McFall stated, "Ron Hellbusch has had a distinguished career with the City of Westminster and in the field of public works and utilities. He is nationally recognized as a leader in public works and as a water and wastewater provider. His shoes will be very hard to fill. We appreciate Ron's efforts over all these years on behalf of Westminster. He will be missed."

I join Manager McFall in those comments. In Ron's retirement letter to City Manager Brent McFall, he indicates that "there are streams and lakes not fished, outdoors to explore, stories to write, vistas to photograph, music to enjoy, books not read and tennis games to play. . . it is time to retire." That may be true and I am envious of the opportunity he now has to enjoy those activities. But we cannot forget that Ron helped enhance the lives of people who live, work and raise a family right there in Westminster and Brighton.

I wish Ron well in his retirement and know that he will stay engaged in community affairs no matter where his retirement may take him.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRYAN SCOTLAND, RECORD-BREAKING CHAMPION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in offering congratulations to an outstanding young man from St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, New Jersey, Bryan Scotland, who set a track meet record in the 1600 meter run on May 14th. During the first day of the Essex County Track and Field Championships at Woodman Field in Montclair, New Jersey, Bryan made a spectacular finish in 4:17:88. On the following day, he also won the 800 meter run.

Not only is Bryan an accomplished athlete, he is an excellent student and a young man of the highest character. He is a credit to his school, St. Benedict's Prep, which has an outstanding academic reputation under the leadership of the Headmaster, Edwin Leahy, fond-

ly known by all as "Father Ed." Opened by Benedictine monks in 1857, the school closed for a period of time in 1972 after demographic shifts in Newark, but thankfully reopened its doors a year later and remains strongly committed to the education of our local youth.

I am proud that I chose Bryan to come to the U.S. House of Representatives to serve as a page during the summer of 2003. He distinguished himself in that position through his diligence and his dedicated service to this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring this talented and hardworking young man with such a bright future ahead of him. Let us offer our congratulations and best wishes to Bryan and his proud parents, Diane and Glen Scotland of Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF RON BEATON

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ron Beaton of Paducah, Kentucky on the occasion of his retirement from WPSD-TV after 29 years of distinguished work and community leadership.

Ron has been a public face and trusted figure in Paducah and the surrounding area since he began working at the television station in 1975. He started out as an intern with WPSD immediately after graduating from Lone Oak High School and has been an on-air fixture ever since. After working on weekends and during the summers while attending Murray State University, Ron has served as a reporter, producer, anchorman, and managing editor.

As his colleagues and viewers readily attest, Ron has handled all types of news stories with professionalism and sensitivity. His coverage of political events, including ten Presidential and Vice-Presidential visits to the region, has garnered well-deserved accolades. In addition, Ron's dignified and caring manner has served the community well during trying times, such as the tragic shootings at Heath High School in 1999 and the deadly tornadoes that ravaged Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri last spring.

Spending one's entire career at a single station, as Ron has done, is increasingly rare in the competitive television news business. Despite opportunities to move to larger and more lucrative markets, Ron decided to keep his career and family in the town he knows and loves. WPSD's viewers in western Kentucky, southern Illinois, southeastern Missouri, and northwest Tennessee have been fortunate to have welcomed Ron into their living rooms for so long.

My constituents have further benefitted from Beaton's service in ways that reach well beyond the television studio. Ron and his colleagues at WPSD have worked with the Lion's Club Telethon of Stars and the Easter Seals for decades to raise millions of dollars for children with disabilities. His work with the popular "Fugitive Files" news segment has led to over 200 suspects apprehended and at least as many communities made safer. Ron has

been an active spiritual leader and teacher in his home church of Trinity United Methodist in Paducah and many other congregations. The financial counseling he has provided, both on the air and through the Money Matters financial planning business he will now attend to full-time, has helped many families reach goals they never thought attainable.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Ron for the positive example he has been for us as an anchorman, businessman, community leader, husband, and father. Tonight, when he signs off with his trademark "Tomorrow's Friday!" for the second-to-last time, he will remind us all that despite the dour outlook that prevails in much of the news media today, there is still much to be happy about in Paducah and places like it all across America. It is with great pride that I represent Ron in Congress and enjoy having his son, Benjamin, on my staff here in Washington. I am honored to bring his accomplishments to the attention of this House.

OSCODA WWII VETERANS' RECOGNITION DAY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, as our nation prepares for the dedication of the National World War II Memorial next weekend, I rise to join my constituents in paying solemn tribute to the nearly 200 World War II veterans of Oscoda County, Michigan. Each and every one of these veterans deserves our continued gratitude for their service, for their sacrifice, and for their leadership.

On May 29th, the residents of Oscoda County will celebrate these members of the greatest generation with a parade, ceremony, and luncheon marking Oscoda World War II Veterans Recognition Day. This day has an added significance: together they will also be watching the dedication ceremony in Washington, DC for the National World War II Memorial. I am fortunate that I will have the honor of participating in this event, and will have the chance to thank these veterans in person for the sacrifice they made for our freedom 60 years ago.

I am especially pleased that this event is focused on those veterans that are still with us. On Memorial Day, our nation rightly honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of preserving liberty. But we too often forget to thank those who came home to careers and family and civic leadership. By the grace of God they returned home, but this does not diminish their service and sacrifice. Indeed, their leadership and example since have put us further in their debt.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, the World War II generation, and especially those who fought so bravely in Europe and the Pacific for the freedom we enjoy today, are deserving of our highest honor and deepest gratitude. We must never forget their sacrifice and their courage. I therefore ask that the House join me in paying tribute to that greatest generation, and especially to those who will be at the Oscoda World War II Veterans Recognition events.